

Message Text

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41

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 OMB-01 RSR-01 /127 W

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R 271100 Z JUN 73

FM USINT CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3307

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 1929

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG XF IS

SUBJECT: ZAYYAT'S PROPOSAL FOR PALESTINIAN STATE

1. JUNE 27 AHRAH CONTAINS ARTICLE BY MOHAMMED SID AHMAD ON SUMMIT RESULTS AND ZAYYAT'S POSITION AT LAST UNSC SESSION.

SID AHMAD BEGINS WITH STATEMENT THAT NIXON/ BREZHNEV COMMUNIQUE NOTED THAT SETTLEMENT SHOULD BE IN ACCORD WITH INTERESTS OF ALL STATES IN AREA AND IN CONSIDERATION OF LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. SID AHMAD NOTES THAT " UNIQUE CONTRADICTION" IN ME CRISIS IS THAT PARTIES TO CONFLICT DO NOT RECOGNIZE BORDERS FOR EACH OTHER. ARABS DO NOT RECOGNIZE ISRAEL, AND ISRAEL HAS NOT DEFINED HER

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CONCEPT OF " SECURE BORDERS." NO PARTY TO ME DISPUTE DARES TO STATE THAT PRESENT CEASEFIRE LINES CAN BECOME FINAL BORDERS IN SETTLEMENT. IN UNSC, FONMIN ZAYYAT ATTEMPTED TO APPLY INTERNATIONAL LAW TO AMBIGUITY RISING FROM FACT THAT NO LEGAL CRITERION EXISTS FOR DRAWING MAP OF ISRAEL' S FINAL BORDERS. BUT, SAYS SID AHMAD, IT IS INDISPUTABLE THAT NO RECOGNITION IS GIVEN TO ISRAEL OUTSIDE OF INTERNATIONAL BORDERS OF PALESTINE- WHETHER PALESTINE OF BRITISH MANDATE OR THAT OF UN PARTITION RESOLUTION . LATTER CONSTITUTES LEGAL BASIS FOR ISRAEL' S EXISTENCE IN EYES OF COUNTRIES WHICH RECOGNIZE ISRAEL, INCLUDING THE PERMANENT SC MEMBERS. TERRITORIES OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL AFTER PARTITION RESOLUTION WERE TAKEN BY FORCE, AND ISRAEL' S RETENTION OF THEM IS WITHOUT LEGAL BASIS IN UN RESOLUTIONS OR IN PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW. ZAYYAT, SAYS SID AHMAD, WAS NOT PROPOSING ANYTHING COUNTER TO PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION OR EXISTING ARAB POSITIONS BY STATING NEED FOR PALESTINIAN STATE. HE WAS SIMPLY SAYING THAT PALESTINIANS HAVE RIGHT TO SELF- DETERMINATION INSIDE LAND OF PALESTINE. FORTCHCOMING SC DEBATE MUST CENTER ON LEGITIMATE BORDERS FOR DISPUTING PARTIES. SUCH BORDERS CANNOT BE DEFINED, HOWEVER, AS LONG AS ONE " PARTY TO CONFLICT DECLINES TO PROCLAIM BORDERS FOR ITSELF RESPECTING PRINCIPLES OF LEGALITY, REGARDLESS OF METHODS THROUGH WHICH FINAL AGREEMENTS ON SUCH BORDERS ARE TO BE REACHED." SID AHMAD CONCLUDES THAT READINESS OF PARTIES TO DEFINE THEIR MAPS WOULD BE MEANS OF REMOVING ALL OBSTACLES HAMPERING IMPLEMENTATION OF PRINCIPLES DEFINED IN RECENT SUMMIT MEETINGS.

2. NORMALLY VERY WELL- CONNECTED JOURNALIST HAS INFORMED US THAT ARTICLE IS DIRECT RESULT OF MEETING BETWEEN SID AHMAD AND ZAYYAT. SOURCE REPORTS THAT ON JUNE 23, ZAYYAT CALLED PRESS CONFERENCE OF EGYPTIAN JOURNALISTS TO EXPLAIN HIS PALESTINIAN STATE PROPOSAL. IN COURSE OF LONG EXPLANATION, DURING WHICH HE UPBRAIDED EGYPTIAN PRESS FOR MALADROIT HANDLING OF HIS REMARKS IN UN, ZAYYYAT SINGLED OUT AHRMA' S HAMDI FUAD FOR NOT PAYING SUFFICIENT ATTENTION TO WHAT HE WAS THEN SAYING, FUAD STORMED OUT OF MEETING AND REPORTED TO HEYKAL, WHO THEREUPON ISSUED
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INSTRUCTIONS THAT AHAM SHOULD TAKE NO NOTE OF ZAYYAT' S MEETING WITH JOURNALISTS. IN ATTEMPT TO PATCH UP AHAM/ ZAYYAT ALTERCATION, AHAM MANAGING EDITOR GAMMAL AND SID AHMAR SUBSEQUENTLY VISITED ZAYYAT, AND SID AHMAD WAS GIVEN LONG EXPLANATION BY ZAYYAT OF WHAT HE HAD MEANT BY HIS UN PROPOSAL. JUNE 27 ARTICLE IS RESULT.

3. SOURCE HAS ALSO STATED THAT ZAYYAT' S HANDLING OF

SC DEBATE, PARTICULARLY PALESTINIAN STATE PROPOSAL, HAD NOT GONE DOWN WELL WITH SADAT. ACCORDING TO SOURCE, ZAYYAT WAS INFORMED THAT MATTER IRRITATED PALESTINIANS, BROUGHT FORTH RESOUNDING NO FROM ISRAELIS, AND CREATED DIFFICULTIES FOR EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT. DESPITE FACT THAT SADAT WAS DUE TO MEET ZAYYAT ON LATTER' S RETURN FROM UN, HE HAS REPORTEDLY NOT DONE SO; AND ZAYYAT IS FEELING ISOLATED AND UNDER SOME PRESSURE TO EXPLAIN HIMSELF, WHICH HE IS NOW IN PROCESS OF DOING.

4. SEPARATE EGYPTIAN JOURNALIST SOURCE HAS TOLD US THAT ZAYYAT IS NOW HAVING " SOME REAL PROBLEMS" AS RESULT OF HIS PALESTINIAN STATE PROPOSAL.
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: hilburpw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973CAIRO01929
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730628/aaaajnm.tel
Line Count: 135
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hilburpw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Aug-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <14-Dec-2001 by hilburpw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980225
Subject: ZAYYAT' S PROPOSAL FOR PALESTINIAN STATE
TAGS: PFOR, EG, IS, XF, n/a
To: AMMAN
BEIRUT
JERUSALEM
JIDDA
KHARTOUM
KUWAIT
LONDON

NEA

SECSTATE WASHDC

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005